



The Network and The Network Integration Kit (NIK)



The Network is a layered system of computers, computer software, radios, and sensors all interconnected within the Brigade Combat Team. The network is essential to delivering a unified battle command and will be delivered to the Army's Brigade Combat Teams in increments. The first increment is currently in testing and will be delivered to the Infantry Brigade Combat Teams in the form of Network Integration Kits (NIKs).



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The Network:

The Army will continue development and fielding of an incremental ground tactical network capability, fielded to all Army BCTs. This network is a layered system of interconnected computers and software, radios, and sensors within the BCT. The network is essential to enable Unified Battle Command and will be delivered to the Army's Brigade Combat Teams in increasing capability increments. The first increment is currently finishing Software Development and Demonstration (SDD) developmental and operational testing and will be delivered to Infantry Brigade Combat Teams in the form of Network Integration Kits (NIK) with E-IBCT.

The Soldier at every echelon, from Brigade to Squad will be connected to the proper sensor data and communication relays to ensure proper battlespace situational awareness. The network is being tested and evaluated in a Joint Service operating environment to ensure ability to integrate communications with Joint Service Agencies and with our allies.

The Network Integration Kit (NIK):

The NIK provides initial network connectivity to transfer sensor and communication data to and from existing tactical wheeled vehicles. The NIK consists of an integrated computer system hosting the latest communications and radio systems, limited battle command and Systems of Systems Common Operating Environment software and will be initially integrated into tactical wheeled vehicle platforms.

